

The Oscillator

The Club...wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective and established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

Est: 1978

OTVARC SPOTLIGHT:

Events

- SEAPAC — June 13–15
- Travelers' Trip — July 18 - 20
- Fifth Wednesday — July 30
- Lunch Bunch — June 28
- Volunteer Exams — June 14
- Field Day — June 28 - 29
- Annual Christmas Dinner

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MICROWAVE OPERATION, Bob W7PUA

I'd like to encourage home station operation on the microwave bands, and particularly 10 GHz. Most of those currently operating microwaves focus their non-EME activities on portable operation from high spots. If one can manage line-of-sight the obvious result is some very strong signals. Unfortunately this tends to restrict operation to a few days per year.

There are many opportunities to work microwave contacts with obstructed paths, opening opportunities for contacts

at any time of the year.

The signals are not those of line-of-sight, but neither is exotic equipment required to make contacts out to 100+ miles. Propagation modes depend on the geography between the stations:

* Mountain reflections can be used wherever a line-of-sight path exists to the mountain.

* Rain Scatter - Think of the opportunities the last few months.

* Airplane Reflections - You need to be quick as the beam widths are small.

* Upper tropospheric water vapor (see Page 3)

THE PROGRAM

The Club opens at 7:00 pm at the Beaverton Elks' Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton (One block north of Canyon Road).

Our program this month features FIELD DAY plans for Shute Park in Hillsboro. Its going to be an exciting NEW kind of Field Day. Come and join in the fun.

Come early at 6:00 pm and get a no-host meal at the Elks' Buffet.

Introduce a friend to OTVARC.

From the Bridge H. D. Landers WAØBRU

Wow! 2003 is half-gone. June is a busy month. The Rose Festival starts with parades. The big Rose Grand Floral Parade, Starlight Parade, and a couple more.

Now to some June ham radio events. SEAPAC is June 13-15 with a flea market, commercial vendors, and seminars. Are you looking for new gear or something from the past? Many times I have

seen a piece of equipment and thought "...they're asking that much?" I bought one of those back in 19XX for \$XX.XX. Two years ago I ran back and forth from my flea market

See BRIDGE Page 3

Amateur Radio contributes to the community through special event communication services

Summit To Surf Needs Volunteers

Amateur Radio contributes to the community through special event communication services for non-profit organizations. These activities improve the event through coordination, offer convenience for the participants, and sometimes provide life-and-death assistance.

Jeff Mathia KF6CXD will coordinate communications for the Summit to Surf this year. The event will be Saturday, July 26th beginning at 6:30 am and finishing around 4:00 pm in the afternoon.

Your role will be to cover a

check in point or provide communications to a event official. The critical piece of the race is that from Welches to Hood River, where other forms of communication are unreliable — if available at all.

Jeff is looking for six or seven additional hams to work the event. He promises a good day, worthwhile contact with the participants, and a feast at the end!

Contact Jeff at 503.381.8060, or catch him at the club meeting on June 11th. Jeff is our Secretary.

Club Events

June 11: Monthly Club Meeting at Beaverton Elks'

June 13 – 15: SEAPAC Northwestern Division ARRL Convention, Seaside, Oregon

June 25: Board Meeting, Everyone incited. TVF&R Station 67, 7:00 pm

June 28 – 29: Field Day '03 Shute Park, Hillsboro

June 28: Lunch Bunch/ Potluck at Field Day, Shute Park.

July 9: Monthly Club Meeting at Beaverton Elks'

July 19: Lunch Bunch

June 14-15: SEAPAC

HamFests

Northwestern Div Convention, Seaside OR, www.seapac.org 503.642.7314

July 19: Coos County RC Bandon OR k7aia@arrrl.net 541.888.2050

August 16: Radio Club of Tacoma, Spanaway WA www.w7dk.org 253.539.7772

In The News

Members of ARRL's Oregon Section are in the midst of a recall ballot. Section Manager, Marsh Johnson, is the subject of that recall. Ballots were mailed May 19 and must be returned to the ARRL prior to June 20.

YOUR ballot counts. Be sure to return your ballot immediately. Don't let someone else decide your future leadership for the Section.

BRIDGE, from Page 1

table and the HRO booth to get special prices on the ICOM IC706 MKIIG.

This year, I will be looking for a TNC for packet and digital modes. The one I want is \$379.00 new, but I have \$75.00.

Julie KD7GQW, will be overseeing the "Hang Out For Bored Spouses." Carl WS7L, will host VE testing across the street at the Lutheran Church, and will be presenting the Mickley Scholarship again this year.

Don't forget Field Day. It's a time to get out and do some contesting. Travelers and the Lunch Bunch co-host a Pot Luck. Every catches up with visiting snow birds back for the summer. We won't have the camping we usually do, but being in town we can sit in the park and have fun.

If you are a Tech and wonder what it's like to operate on HF, Field Day is for you. You can operate or log. I was a Tech for 30 years and enjoyed operating 15, 20, 40, and 75 meter SSB at Field Days over the years. You can too.

Now for the bad/good news. I am not going to run for OTVARC president for 2004. I am looking into taking over for Jim KB7ADH on the SEAPAC

Microwave, from P 1

and ice (eg, KD7TS page at <http://members.ispwest.com/kd7ts/html/tropo/tropo.html>, or an article by W7LHL, W7SZ and myself in the July/August QEX).

Greater heights mean longer distances for the "common reflecting volume." This means that contacts are possible over highly obstructed paths.

Washington ham, W7SZ in Washougal has been involved in upper-tropospheric 10 GHz contacts with KD7TS in Des Moines, W7LHL in Graham, and myself in Corvallis.

At present, a number of stations are either updating their 10 GHz home-station equipment, or getting on for the first time:

- W7LHL - Setting up a north facing AZ-EL ↗

Committee. Jim does not have a lot to do during SEAPAC but he keeps us "on track" before and after the event. Jim has done an excellent job to make it happen every June. He is on to new adventures.

We will give Jim the break he needs to work with many other projects. No Jim, I won't take Cycle Oregon, Bridge Peddle or any of the other events. Just SEAPAC.

73

Harold WAØBRU

controlled 3 foot dish with 5 Watts;

- W7CQ, near Eugene, getting on with 1 Watt;
- KO7N, near Eugene, with 1 Watt;
- W7PUA, moving the dish away from a fir tree in the Puget Sound direction;
- W7SZ is active with excellent gear;
- W7LHL already has a 10 ft dish pointed South; and,
- KD7TS is well set up with 1 Watt from a good location, including a view of the Olympics.

There may be more stations that I missed listing.

If anyone is interested in setting up a home station on 10 GHz, this is a good time to pursue it. Power of 1 Watt and a dish of 3 feet or more is desirable, but getting on is the most important element.

The better the frequency stability, the greater the success. With GPS control, it is practical to maintain a frequency accuracy of a few Hz at 10 GHz. But again, this is not a necessity.

The stations that are on would all welcome more activity. Every one of us has been pleasantly surprised at the potential for making contacts.

Let me add that all the

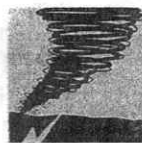
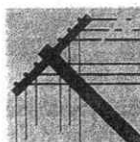
contacts mentioned above have been using conventional modes, such as CW. Some of the propagation modes, such as the upper-troposphere, support digital modes such as JT44 or PUA43, but much is possible without such assistance.

I don't want to try to list all possibilities for gear, but DB6NT and DEM sell transverters and accessories and for the more experimentally inclined the San Diego microwave group still has Qualcomm gear available (www.ham-radio.com/sbms/sd/projindx.htm) and other websites and Microwave Update proceedings.

Presently there are regular 10 GHz contacts and propagation experiments between W7SZ and W7LHL at 0830 PDT with coordination on 3818 KHz. KD7TS and W7LHL are conducting contacts and experiments, with coordination on 144.250 MHz. These frequencies are both places to get more information, as well. Join in if you are interested. Even if your location seems to be in a hole, don't count out the possibilities of making some interesting contacts and experimenting with t microwaves.

Field Day in Hillsboro's Shute Park

WHEN
ALL
ELSE
FAILS...



Field Day: Counting Down to June 28, J.D. K7JDF

In case you missed it, the busiest month for northwest hams has arrived! SEAPAC and Field Day in one month. Next to Christmas, it doesn't get much better than this.

A reminder that this year's Field Day will be held in Hillsboro's Shute Park. For security and space limitations we will be unable to accommodate overnight RV's in this urban setting. However, The Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Department has graciously allowed us to operate overnight Saturday night.

The Office of Homeland Security has elevated the national alert status to "High", which may further modify our operations.

We will provide Continental Breakfast and sandwiches for Lunch on Saturday. Snacks, coffee and soft drinks will be available through the

evening and overnight, with Brunch on Sunday morning. The Travelers' potluck returns in 2004 as our Field Day event heads for the hills. (More on that later!)

We still need a volunteer to help us transport the silver top structures from Betty Mickley's (N7REX) residence to the park. We need someone to help with this on Saturday morning, and for the return trip on Sunday afternoon. My little road puppy isn't quite up to this task. The support poles are ten feet, so we'll need a good size truck to help us out. If you can fill the bill, let me know. Saturday morning we'll need for a good amount of "people power". Betty advises that the "silver tops" go up best with at least a dozen people to help prop and raise them.

I am slim on volunteers helping with the information booth. This is

not a throw away position. We will claim 100 bonus points for setting up and handing out flyers for the public. It's just the thing if you wish to meet people, enjoy a cup of coffee and advocate the hobby.

There is a need for someone to act as site coordinator on Sunday morning from 5:00 am – 10:00 am. I, unavoidably, have been called to service on the medium wave band and could use the help to maintain operations for this 5 hour stretch.

There are still plenty of three hour shifts available. If you haven't made any HF contacts recently. Here's your chance.

Contact me on the 146.96 or 503.259.0269. Get ready to enjoy your summer. I look forward to seeing you the last full weekend of the month (June 28-29) for OTVARC's Field Day 2003.

Using W7OTV For Special Events

W7OTV is the call sign of Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club. The Call Trustee for OTVARC is Hanford Van Ness, KE7BB. Hanford is responsible to the FCC on our behalf for the use of our Call.

OTVARC uses its Call on the 146.96 repeater, as the talk-in station at SEAPAC, and for Field Day. In addition, certain special events use the Call.

If you are leading a club sponsored event and wish to use W7OTV, contact

Van in writing (or by email) to receive authority to use the Call. The Board of Directors will act on your request. Your timely request will assure that the Board has opportunity to grant your use. Our thanks to Van for his service to the club.

Five 60-Meter Channels Assigned to Amateur Radio

The Federal Communications Commission had determined that it will assign amateur radio operators in the US five discrete 2.8-kHz-wide channels in the 5 MHz (60 Meter) Band instead of the 150-kHz bandwidth the ARRL had requested.

In its *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* a year ago, the FCC appeared inclined

to go along with both ARRL requests. This grant is considered to be a compromise with government users who objected to the assignment to amateur operators. Opposition was expressed last fall by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The NTIA had cited a possible need for the frequencies by

federal government users and proposed the five specific frequencies for amateur use on a secondary basis.

A grant of five spot frequencies are -- 5332, 5348, 5368, 5373, and 5405 KHz -- at 60 meters. The FCC granted operation on USB only (2K8J3E emission), with a maximum effective radiated power limit of 50 Watts relative to a 0 dB gain antenna -- a half-wave dipole. The channels--each with a maximum permissible bandwidth of 2.8 kHz -- will be available to General and higher class licensees. David Sumner said. "Federal agencies with homeland security responsibilities have renewed interest in HF radiocommunication."

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VE News

Our next testing session is at SEAPAC on Saturday June 14th. Contact Carl at: ws7l@arrl.net, 503.629.5796.

Testing Services are courtesy of the Volunteer Examiners Team of ORVARC. Other testing sessions are available at other sites and dates. Check with the editor.

Travelers

The July Campout is our annual trek to Skamokawa State Park in Washington. This is your chance to experience ocean-going ships at your door!

Many of the crew will start showing up at Skamokawa on Wednesday, July 16...but the official weekend is July 18-20.

Your wagon mistress for July is Marvel Noyes KA7TZZ. You can contact Marvel for more information and to register your intention to participate, 503.292.3261.

The Cathlamet Eagle Days Parade, street vendors, and fireworks are "extras." See you there.

CLUB INFORMATION

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL. The National Association for Amateur Radio. We advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

Membership dues are \$15/year; Family members(s) of full members at same address \$20/household; Full Time students and members of two years or more at age 70 or older (Life Members) are dues free. See Club Treasurer about purchase of life membership prior to age 70. If you wish to join during the year, dues are pro-rated.

Membership applications may be found on the Club Website or on request from the Treasurer.

The OSCILLATOR is published Monthly for members. The deadline for the July issue is Tuesday, June 24th.

Happy June Birthday

1 Alan Morse

4 Leonard Thompson KATIOB

8 Darwin Durr K7P5D

11 Hanford Van Ness KE7BB

16 Mark Dewey KD7NVD

19 Carl Blanchard N7CVB

21 Fred Dayton WA7TD

Claire Johnson N7CM

25 Elizabeth Thutt KC7PMX

27 Emerson Hoyt WX7E

30 Maureen O'Rourke



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CLUB MEETING
JUNE 11TH